

Neighborhood News

City of Bellevue

News for and about Bellevue Neighborhoods

June 2011

Annexation campaign underway in South Bellevue

Local residents have begun working with City staff to annex the remaining unincorporated areas of south Bellevue that are now surrounded by the City. Annexation supporters are circulating petitions in four unincorporated areas – Tamara Hills, Horizon View, Hilltop and a large portion of Eastgate. Together the four areas represent 5,554 people with 2,123 homes on 750 acres.

Annexations have played a major part in Bellevue's growth since its incorporation in 1953. The last major annexation was in 2001 when the West Lake Sammamish area added 523 acres to the City.

Neighbors in the annexation area have been invited to meet with Bellevue leaders and key staff members during a June 30 open house at the South Bellevue Community Center. Scheduled from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m., the event will be an opportunity to learn about the City's programs and services, and to get information about the annexation process. Details about the annexation effort, including downloadable maps and petitions, are available at <http://www.bellevuewa.gov/south-bellevue-annexation.htm>.

What does your mailbox say about your neighborhood?

Community mailboxes can be attractive ... or they can be eyesores.

More neighborhood matching grant money is available from the Neighborhood Partnerships Program. If you missed the initial April deadline, you can still apply for city dollars toward your neighborhood project – community mailbox improvements, entry signs, median landscaping and more.

To qualify for funding, projects must have the support of all affected neighbors, and the neighborhood must agree to provide 50 percent of the project cost in dollars or labor, up to \$5,000. To obtain an application or additional information, contact Patricia Knight at 425- 452-7917 or go to <http://www.bellevuewa.gov/9513.htm>.



Third annual Neighbor Link picnic at Crossroads Community Park July 23

Grab your picnic blanket and come on down to Crossroads Community Park to soak up some sunshine and enjoy a true old fashioned picnic in the park, Saturday, July 23, from noon to 2 p.m.

- A delicious hotdog lunch will cost the old-fashioned price of one dollar, with proceeds going to the Eastside Human Services Fund.
- A host of games, sports and activities will be available for all ages.
- Listen and dance to live entertainment throughout the afternoon.
- Everyone is asked to bring a pack of disposable diapers or a cash donation to the "Help the Babies" diaper drive to benefit Eastside Baby Corner.

Neighbor Link picnic sponsors include Crossroads Bellevue Shopping Center, Stone Gardens: the Climbing Gym, Tim's Cascade Chips, Seattle Mariners and Chipotle Mexican Grill. For more information on the picnic, contact Neighborhood Outreach at 425-452-6836 or e-mail Neighborhoodoutreach@bellevuewa.gov.



Neighborhood roadways to be improved



Looking out the front door and seeing bright orange “road work ahead” signs can lead to grimaces and visions of construction-related traffic snarls. Two upcoming projects in Bellevue may cause temporary anxiety, but the end result will be well worth waiting for as these neighborhoods get greatly improved pedestrian and bicycle access and improved pathways, sidewalks and landscape.

108th Ave SE: Bellevue Way to I-90 – This project includes replacing existing shoulder with new landscape strips and multi-use path, connecting gaps in sidewalk and bike lanes, adding new street lighting, replacing concrete panels and water main work. Construction was scheduled to begin May 31 and run through the end of the year. Full plans and construction updates can be viewed at www.bellevuewa.gov/108th-se-pedbike.htm or contact project manager, Steve Costa at 425-452-2845 or scosta@bellevuewa.gov.

145th Place SE: SE 16th Street to SE 24th Street / SE 22nd Street: 145th Place SE to 156th Avenue SE – This project will improve access for bicyclists and pedestrians by adding five-foot wide bike lanes and six-foot wide sidewalks on both sides of the roadway, a two-way center left turn lane, planted median islands, irrigation and landscaping. Other improvements include a new storm water conveyance system, street lighting, and two new mid-block crosswalks. This is also a “pilot” project to incorporate rain gardens, bio-retention swales and a pervious concrete sidewalk. For construction information, go to www.bellevuewa.gov/145th_improvements.htm or contact project manager, Marina Arakelyan, 425-452-4632 or marakelyan@bellevuewa.gov

Neighborhoods can earn Whole Foods cakes for celebrations

If your neighborhood conducts a summertime public service or community building event, you could earn the chance to celebrate with a delicious cake donated by Whole Foods Bellevue Market. If you have a firm date for your community event, contact Neighborhood Outreach to reserve your Whole Foods cake. Decadent chocolate or delicious vanilla sheet cakes to serve 100 are available while supplies last. Events must be held between June 1 and Sept. 30. Reserve yours by calling Julie Ellenhorn at 425-452-6836 or jellenhorn@bellevuewa.gov.

Bellevue Neighborhoods Forum videos available on line

If you missed the April 6 Neighborhoods Forum featuring author and journalist Peter Lovenheim, the popular program can be viewed on the BTV website at http://bellevue.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?publish_id=927.

The May 12 Neighborhoods Forum featured a panel presentation and lively discussion on building neighborhood connections with multicultural, aging and youth populations. The video from that event will be posted shortly on BTV. To receive the link when it is available, email jellenhorn@bellevuewa.gov. These videos make great training and discussion pieces for your neighborhood association board meetings – or view them for your own enjoyment.

Get fresh food – or grow it – in your neighborhood

Bellevue’s Farmers Markets are up and running, offering colorful venues and healthy food alternatives in your own neighborhood. The Crossroads Farmers Market is open every Tuesday from noon to 6:30 in the shopping center’s back parking lot. Bellevue Farmers Market operates from 3 to 7 p.m. Thursdays at the First Presbyterian Church parking lot on Bellevue Way, and from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturdays at Washington Square, NE 10th Street at 106th Avenue NE.

Local farms also offer fresh fruits and vegetables for “u-pick” or already picked: Larsen Lake Blueberry Farm, 700 148th Ave. SE; Mercer Slough Blueberry Farm Stand, 2380 Bellevue Way SE; and Lake Hills Farm Fresh Produce Stand, SE 16th Street at 156th Avenue SE.



In the meantime, garden plots are available at local community gardens or “pea patches” for gardeners who lack space in their own yards. Contact: city staff at 425-452-7225 to determine availability at the 15500 SE 16th garden and other local sites. Master Gardeners hold weekly gardening workshops from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Lake Hills Greenbelt Urban Demonstration Garden, SE 16th and 156th Avenue SE.

520 bridge due for weekend closure

Crews will close the SR 520 bridge and highway between Montlake Boulevard and I-405 during the weekend of June 17-20 to construct fish passage culverts under the highway, remove the pedestrian bridge and complete other time-sensitive work activities. Lanes will close from 11 p.m. Friday, June 17, to 5 a.m. Monday, June 20. For more information about the project, visit the project [website](#).

June meetings

(All meetings are in City Hall unless otherwise noted. Agendas are subject to change. You may confirm with Neighborhood Outreach the day before or day of the meeting. Or consult the city web pages listed below to download agendas.)

6/1 Eastgate/I-90 Open Houses (1-3 at Robinswood House Cabana, 2430 148th Ave. NE, and 5-7 at Eastgate Elementary School cafeteria, 4255 153rd Ave. SE) Two opportunities to view and comment on conceptual land use and transportation alternatives for the Eastgate/I-90 Corridor <http://www.bellevuewa.gov/eastgate-corridor.htm>

6/2 Bellevue Network on Aging 8:30-10:30 a.m., 1E-112) Human Services Division and Commission overview, committee reports http://www.bellevuewa.gov/network_on_aging.htm

6/2 Environmental Services Commission (6:30, 1E-112) Welcome new Commissioners, Reserve Policy presentation http://www.bellevuewa.gov/enviro_serv_comm.htm

6/6 City Council (6:00 study session, Council Conference Room) Coopersmith report on Council conflict review; staff and Transportation Commission recommendations for the NE 15/16th Street multi-modal corridor and update on the Bel-Red stormwater management approach (8:00 regular session, Council Chambers) Proclamation for Mountains to Sound Greenway summer kick-off; management briefs on Police defibrillation program, Downtown Transportation Plan, South Kirkland Park-n-Ride, Supreme Court decision on use of I-90 center roadway, further extension of permit deadlines, and update on Phantom Lake; Consent Calendar; purchase of certain real property from Seattle Children’s Hospital; and repealing Resolution No. 4803 and establishing a new policy and procedure for naming public parks and parks and recreation facilities http://www.bellevuewa.gov/council_overview.htm

6/7 East Bellevue Community Council (6:30, Lake Hills Clubhouse, 15230 Lake Hills Blvd.) Hearings regarding conditional use permit approval for the Kelsey Creek Center’s proposed health club and the FEMA consistency Land Use Code Amendment http://www.bellevuewa.gov/EBCC_Homepage.htm

6/7 Human Services Commission (6:30, 1E-113) Human Services Needs Update survey results; impact of State Budget reductions http://www.bellevuewa.gov/human_serv_comm.htm

6/8 Planning Commission (6:30, Council Conference Room) Review of Camp and Conference Center code amendment; review of FEMA-related code amendment http://www.bellevuewa.gov/planning_commission.htm

6/9 Transportation Commission (6:30, Council Conference Room) Agenda to be announced http://www.bellevuewa.gov/trans_comm.htm

6/13 City Council (6:00 extended study session, Council Conference Room) Agenda to be determined http://www.bellevuewa.gov/council_overview.htm

6/14 Parks & Community Services Board (6:00, Council Conference Room) Agenda to be determined http://www.bellevuewa.gov/parks_board.htm

6/16 Eastgate/I-90 Citizen Advisory Committee (5:30, 1E-112) <http://www.bellevuewa.gov/eastgate-corridor.htm>

6/16 Public Hearing on Kimberlee Park III PUD (7:00, Council Chambers) Opportunity to comment on recommendation to allow division of 7.47 acres into 17 buildable lots, road and drainage tracts and Native Growth Protection Area by means of a Planned Unit Development (PUD) at 11050 SE 60th St.

Save the date – July 19, 5:30-6:30
B7 Revised Alternative Light Rail Presentation (Council Chambers)
Staff from the ARUP consultant team will provide a final presentation of the Concept Design Report for the B7 Revised Alternative and will be available after the presentation to answer questions and take comments.

6/20 City Council (6:00 study session, Council Conference Room) To be determined (8:00 regular session, Council Chambers) Consent Calendar; proposed ordinance for code amendment to create a new Gross Misdemeanor of Loitering with the Intent of Engaging in Drug-Related activity

http://www.bellevuewa.gov/council_overview.htm

6/21 Human Services Commission (6:30, 1E-113) Agenda to be determined

http://www.bellevuewa.gov/human_serv_comm.htm

6/22 Planning Commission (6:30, Council Chambers) Public hearing on the Ren-Fu Comprehensive Plan amendment proposal; review of public input on the draft Shoreline Master Program

http://www.bellevuewa.gov/planning_commission.htm

6/27 City Council (6:00 extended study session, Council Conference Room) Regional issues

http://www.bellevuewa.gov/council_overview.htm

6/30 South Bellevue Annexation Open House (6:30-8 p.m., South Bellevue Community Center, 14509 SE Newport Way) Learn more about City services and the annexation process

Bellevue's Neighborhood Outreach Office offers a variety of programs and partnerships for neighborhood leaders and active residents. To learn more about citizen involvement opportunities and programs to enhance neighborhoods, call 452-6836.